

ISSUE 1 | 2022

# word@work

## YOUR GIFT OF GOD'S WORD BRINGS HEALING TO BROKEN HEARTS

“Give thanks to  
the LORD, for he  
is good; his love  
endures forever.”

—1 Chronicles 16:34 (NIV)

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Canadian  
Bible Society

黑彝文圣经



# Rupen's Reflections

■ God's love never falters, even when we don't feel it

“How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever?” (Psalm 13:1, NIV).

This was the cry of David in the midst of dire circumstances. We often feel the same way when our troubles overtake us. In our struggles we can feel abandoned by God or blame Him for our difficulties.

As we look around the world today, we see so many people who are struggling along with us. It's easy to doubt the promises of God and lose hope.

Yet that's not what David did. Even in his troubles, his confidence in God remained strong.

“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me” (Psalm 23:4, NIV).

In Scripture, we encounter a God who identifies Himself as Immanuel — God with us.

The assurance of His presence can offer comfort and hope in times of difficulty.

That's why it's so vital to share the Word of God with people everywhere as we start a new year. Thank you for partnering with us to share the enduring love of God with the world.

In His service,

**Rupen Das**  
Executive Director

“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life...” –Psalm 23:6 (NIV)



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**NOTE:** Some photos and names in this newsletter have been changed for personal privacy and security reasons.

## TO DONATE:

**CALL TOLL FREE:** 1-800-465-2425

**DONATE ONLINE:** [biblesociety.ca/wawjan22](http://biblesociety.ca/wawjan22)

**MAIL TO:** 10 Carnforth Road, Toronto, ON M4A 2S4



Canadian Centre for Christian Charities

ACCREDITED MEMBER

We are a member of the Canadian Centre for Christian Charities. This means that we adhere to high ethical and

operational standards. The CCCC seal is evidence that we are committed to integrity and excellence in ministry.

## Miriam was ready to set herself on fire, until...

■ While the worst days of the conflict in Syria are now over, its impact on people’s lives continues to be devastating. But your generosity is helping to restore families like Miriam’s through Bible-based trauma healing.

Miriam’s family fled to a refugee camp in Jordan to escape the violence in her country, but her troubles came with her. Miriam’s husband drank heavily and abused her. She felt her world was falling apart. At one point things got so bad that she poured kerosene over herself and got ready to set herself on fire. She is only alive because one of her sons begged her to stop.

It’s your gifts that helped bring healing from God’s Word into her life. Thanks to your generosity, Miriam now says she feels very close to God. That has brought new hope and light into her life — and into her family as well.

“When I took part in the trauma healing, I felt that I could breathe again,” Miriam says. “I needed someone to listen to me. I needed to tell someone what had happened to me.”

“All the love I get from Jesus I give to my children,” she smiles. “The Bible has been life-changing for me.”



“Receiving and reading the Bible has been a pillar in my life.”

## You’re helping reach more people through Bible translation



In the last five years, Bible Societies around the world have completed Scripture translation in over **270 languages** used by **1.7 billion people**.



Some Scripture portions were made available in an additional **1,160 languages** used by **450 million people**.



Around **80%** of the world’s population (just over **5.7 billion people**) now have the whole Bible in their mother tongue.

## You helped provide Bibles for orphaned children

■ José was sold by his mother to work on the streets in Dominican Republic. Thankfully, a pastor found him and brought him to an orphanage where he was safe and able to recover from malnutrition.

With your generous help, Canadian Bible Society is providing illustrated children's Bibles and Bible-based materials for orphanages in

Dominican Republic. Orphanage visitors recently reported that the children were very happy with the Bibles they received. And they work together with tutors colouring biblical pictures and learning about Bible characters such as Joseph and Jesus.

Thank you for your gifts that provide God's Word to orphans in Dominican Republic.



Children in Dominican Republic with their Christmas ornaments and greetings sent by Canadian donors.

## Your gifts helped young people celebrate Pentecost

■ Despite the limitations posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, your gifts have helped provide Scripture materials to more than 30 denominations through the Cuban Bible Commission.

Recent highlights include giving Bibles to all the participants in PENTECOSTFEST, a virtual festival on behalf of the unity of the Church in Cuba. In addition, youth from different denominations created artistic and liturgical resources for the celebration during the week prior to Pentecost.

Thank you for helping the Word of God travel to every corner of Cuba to bring hope and life to those who read it.



## With your help, Guangen's lifelong wait for a Bible has ended!

■ China's national language is Mandarin Chinese, but China's Education Ministry reports that approximately four hundred million people — or 30 percent of the population — don't speak it.

That means people like Guangen, who lives in a mountainous region of southern China, can't read a Mandarin Bible. He speaks Black Yi, which is one of China's minority languages. Getting a Bible in his language is very difficult.

For years, Guangen longed to hear from God in his heart language. Finally, one day Guangen heard a rumour that the town's pastor was going to deliver the Word of Life in Black Yi.

He joined other believers across the region who were huddled in their churches, watching the door, waiting for Pastor Wenfu to arrive with the Bibles that had been translated into their native tongue.



It was midnight before Pastor Wenfu arrived, but Guangen had waited his whole life to have a Bible. "When the pastor brought the box of 20 Bibles to the village, I was so happy," Guangen says.

Guangen was only 18 when religion was outlawed in China. By the time the worst of the restrictions had been lifted, Guangen was nearly 30. When he was 41, he met Jesus and believed. That night, at age 69, he finally held his first Black Yi Bible.

"Everyone wanted to read it," Guangen reports. "We were all very excited to have our own copies of the Bible."

For Guangen, reaching the next generation with the Bible is personal. "My two daughters: one is a believer and one isn't," Guangen says. "I pray that with the Black Yi Bible, it will help them to be drawn closer to the love of God."

## YOUR GIFT AT WORK CHANGING LIVES IN CANADA

### Toby has a Bible today through your generosity

■ Thanks to your generosity, about 500 Bibles were provided to children through Scripture Union's summer sports camps in 15 communities across Ontario.

This was part of our goal to provide 4,000 young Canadians with the hope that comes from God's Word. I'm so grateful that you helped us achieve that goal and change the lives of children like Toby in Cambridge as a result.

When Toby arrived at camp, he had only heard the gospel once, says Joshua, one of the camp coaches: "He was amazed by the story but said he was still fearful of the reality of death." Joshua was able to help Toby read about the promise of Jesus in

John 11:25 — "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying."

Toby was excited to read more and wanted to keep the Bible. "It was with great joy that I shared that he would go away at the end of the week with his very own Bible!" says Joshua.





## LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED WHEN GOD SPEAKS

As a supporter of CBS, you know the power of God's Word. Your gift today will ensure that many more can experience the transformation that comes from hearing God speak through His Word!

### Select Global Projects

- 01 **Arab-Israel** - Empowering Women & Families through Scripture Engagement
- 02 **Armenia** - Scriptures to needy children
- 03 **Bolivia** - Sign language Bibles for the Deaf
- 04 **Cameroon** - Bringing God's Word to teenage mothers and girls who are victims of sexual exploitation
- 05 **China** - Braille and audio Bible for visually impaired  
**China** - Affordable Bibles for the millions in China  
**China** - Bible Translation for Ethnic Minority People
- 06 **Costa Rica** - Scriptures in Spanish Braille for Adult Children
- 07 **Cuba** - Cuban Sign Language Bible Translation  
**Cuba** - A Bible for every Cuban
- 08 **Dominican Republic** - Scriptures for orphans
- 09 **Egypt** - Scriptures for poor children and their families
- 10 **Ghana** - Rescuing vulnerable teenage girls from sex trade with God's Word
- 11 **Guatemala** - God's Word to young victims of sex trafficking
- 12 **Honduras** - God's Word to the world's most violent country
- 13 **Iraq** - Scriptures for the persecuted Church
- 14 **Israel** - Reaching out to refugees, migrants and foreign workers with God's Word
- 15 **Jordan** - God's Word to Refugees
- 16 **Kazakhstan** - Large font Bible parts in Russian to people with visual disabilities
- 17 **Kenya** - Bibles to visually impaired school-going children  
**Kenya** - Faith comes by hearing (Audio Bibles)
- 18 **Lebanon** - Trauma Healing Program for traumatized Iraqi and Syrian refugees
- 19 **Lithuania** - New Testament translation into Lithuanian Sign language
- 20 **Mongolia** - Mongolian Standard Version translation
- 21 **Nigeria** - Meeting the Scriptural needs of those who are displaced
- 22 **Palestine** - Trauma Healing through God's Word to Palestine
- 23 **Peru** - Sharing Scriptures and breakfast with needy children
- 24 **Romania** - Sharing God's love with children with Down syndrome  
**Romania** - Healing the wounds of trauma
- 25 **Russia** - New Testament translation into Russian sign language
- 26 **Sri Lanka** - Braille and Audio Bible to visually impaired
- 27 **Syria** - Trauma Healing through Scriptures
- 28 **Uganda** - Scriptures for people with visual disabilities
- 29 **Uzbekistan** - Faith comes by hearing (Audio Bibles)
- 30 **Vietnam** - First Bible translation in the Nung Chao dialect

TO LEARN MORE VISIT: [www.biblesociety.ca](http://www.biblesociety.ca)

Your gifts help people hear God speak of His love for them

## “God has heard our prayer...”

■ Through your generous support, Christians in eastern Kenya celebrated an historic milestone. The Gospel of Luke in Mwimbi Muthambi was launched on July 1, 2021, during a ceremony attended by church leaders and community members from across the county.

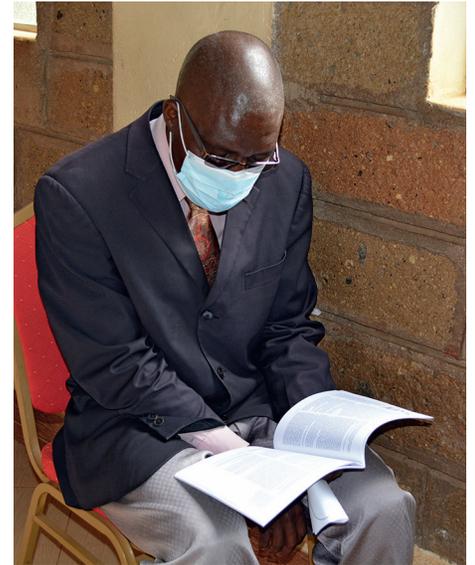
“I am so happy because, after using English and Swahili Bibles for so long, God has heard our prayer,” said Pastor Patrick Micheni Mugo. “The old grandmothers who cannot understand the English Bible will be delighted to read the Bible in the language they speak. When I read the English Bible, there are some words that I do not understand, even when I consult a dictionary. This new Scripture will simplify my preaching.”

Dr. Barine Kirimi, who was the main speaker at the dedication, said, “I grew up in an environment where, at school, we read the Kimeru Bible, but in church, the Kikuyu Bible was used. And then at home, we spoke Mwimbi Muthambi. All this was confusing for a young mind. Getting to read the Bible in English, which is what I use

now, made it much easier to understand. But even so, there are words and expressions that are difficult to find an equivalent for in my own language.

“But when I read Luke’s Gospel in Mwimbi Muthambi, it comes alive! The language feels so familiar and natural to me, with the same words and expressions that I use when talking to my mother or my siblings. This makes it much easier to understand.”

Thank you for your generous gifts that have helped God’s Word come alive for 70,000 Mwimbi Muthambi speakers in eastern Kenya.



## Your Canadian Bible Society LEGACY GIFT

You can leave a legacy that brings God’s Word to those who need it most with a planned gift to the Canadian Bible Society. By including the Canadian Bible Society in your will, you’ll have the opportunity to continue your legacy of furthering God’s Kingdom, while still providing for your family.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ADVISORS WITH PURPOSE AT: **1-866-336-3315**



## There are people still waiting to hear God speak

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### Throughout the world, people still hunger for the Good News.

In many parts of the world, Christianity is growing and the demand for Bibles is far beyond what is currently available. In other parts of the world, people are waiting for a Bible to be translated in their language.

And yet they still need the comfort, hope, and healing that only Scripture can provide.

You can make a difference by helping people in Canada and around the world hear God speak through His Word!

**HELP PROVIDE BIBLES IN CHINA, CUBA, AND IN PLACES WHERE PEOPLE ARE LONGING TO HEAR GOD SPEAK.**